

Offertory Promise Canvass

March, 1962



**HOLY ROSARY CHURCH
719 CLARK ROAD
GARY, INDIANA**



His Excellency - Bishop Andrew G. Grutka
Bishop of Gary



BISHOP'S RESIDENCE
668 PIERCE STREET
GARY, INDIANA

March 15, 1962

Reverend Joseph Smith
719 Clark Road
Gary, Indiana

Reverend and dear Father Smith:

The concerted effort within Holy Rosary Parish to raise the sights of every parishioner toward the acceptance of a realistic plan for supporting the Church has my whole hearted approval.

The burden of financing our schools, our press, and our corporal and spiritual works of mercy is not light, and is getting heavier. The only way to lighten this burden is to strengthen the supporting hands and multiply their numbers. This calls for sacrifices, something always difficult and irksome, unless motivated by Christian love. Genuine and intense Christian love can make sacrifice, any sacrifice easy.

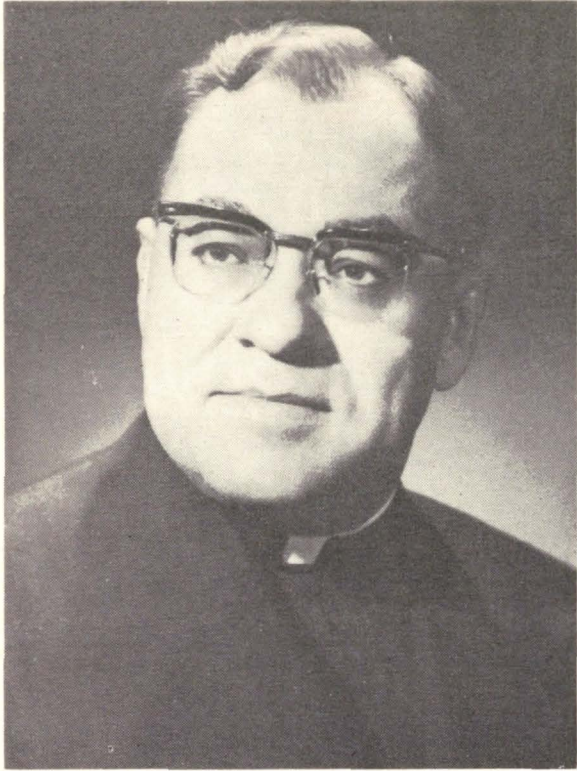
Conscientious giving for the maintenance of parochial facilities should be completely free and extra generous because the parish church is the place where parishioners meet Christ. They meet Him in the words of sermons and in the signs of the Sacraments. Meeting with Christ is indispensable to their salvation. In fact without it salvation is impossible.

Whenever the temptation to question giving to your parish arises be mindful of the words of Our Lord "For what shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his soul." (Mark vii, 36)

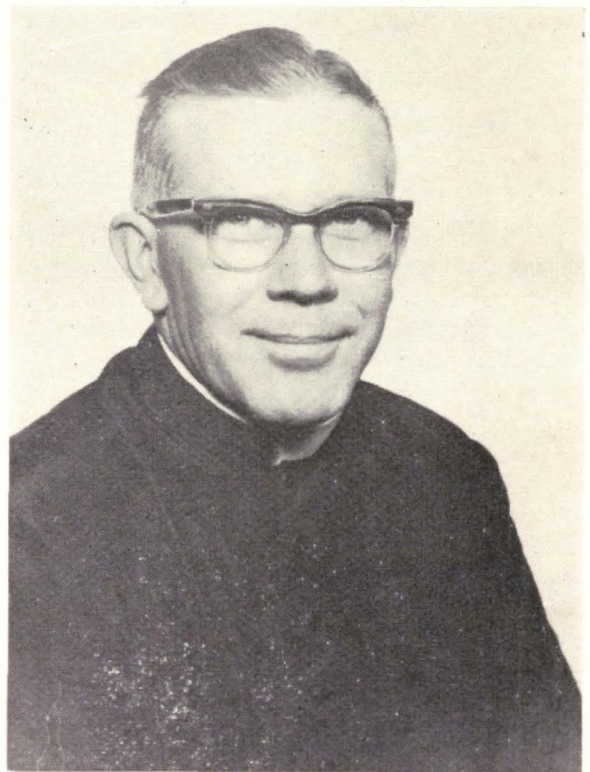
With prayerful best wishes for a fruitful campaign materially and spiritually, and with a cordial paternal blessing, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Andrew G. Grutka, Bishop of Gary



FATHER JOSEPH SMITH
(PASTOR)



FATHER AMBROSE MCGINNITY

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

GARY, INDIANA

My Dear Parishioners:

If we live orderly lives, we put first things first. The Church is very explicit in revealing what those first things are; "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind and with all thy strength".

This clear-cut statement from the lips of Christ can mean but one thing—God must have first priority in our lives. He must have first claim on our time, our energies, our abilities and our material possessions.

The Canvass which is now in progress will provide each parishioner with an opportunity of showing that God actually does come first in his life.

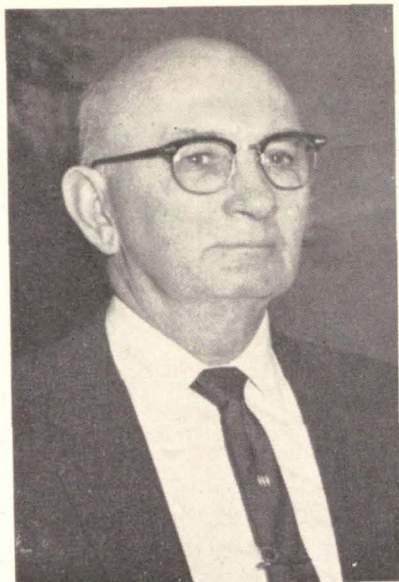
To provide for the needs of our Parish over the next three years, and to lower our debt to a figure from whence we can plan for a new Church and Parish Hall, will mean that each parishioner and every parishioner will have to put forth a combined effort entailing some sacrifice. I have no doubt that the parishioners will now emulate the courage and generosity of the founders of this Parish, and answer the call generously when canvassed by the men of Holy Rosary.

In considering your own contribution to this Canvass it is well to remember that God will not be out-done in generosity—the more generous we are, the more generous He will be in return.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Father Joseph Smith

Pastor



Mr. Gerry Maloney



Mr. Clemens Peschke



Mr. James Freeman

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PARISH OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS

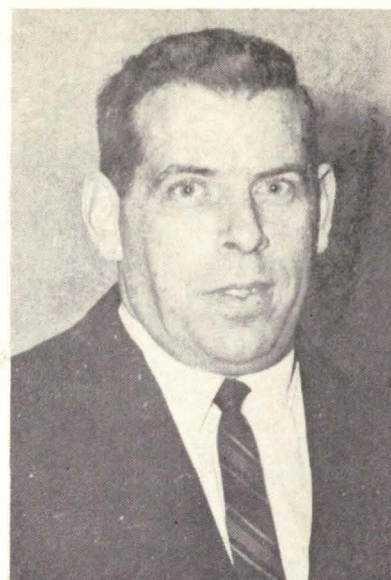
1. To obtain a sacrificial Offertory Promise from every wage-earner when visited in their homes by a canvasser.
2. To assert once more the spirit of co-operation, both spiritual and temporal, of our parishioners in the plans and projects of Holy Rosary Parish.
3. To consolidate all our collections except Christmas and Easter into one Sunday offering, thus centering our giving around the Offertory of the Mass.
4. To encourage a clearer understanding that we must place the Church first in our practical lives.
5. To promote lay leadership and lay responsibility consistent with the wishes of the Church in our times.
6. To work and sacrifice so that through our efforts our Parish may become a more closely-knit family unit.



Mr. Sam Maletta



Mr. Lawrence Pichitino



Mr. Ralph Settle

WHY SHOULD I GIVE?

If we gave this question one moment's consideration, the answer would be evident. There are three main reasons underlying our obligation to give to the Church:

1. Reasons based on the Scripture:

All through the Church history, God has asked that temples should be built wherein His people might honour and offer sacrifice to Him. He has chosen priests to minister in those temples and to be supported by the people.

In the Old Testament, God designated the kind of temples He wanted built. He set up a lineage of priests to represent the people in offering sacrifice and even directed that *One-Tenth* of the material income of all His subjects be set aside for the worship of God in the temple.

In the New Testament, Christ established a religion that would require priests to represent Him, churches in which the Mass and the sacraments might be fittingly enacted, schools in which His command "Teach all nations" might be fulfilled. Obviously He intended that the support of priests, churches and schools should come from the people who believed in His teachings.

St. Paul clearly defines the collections that must be taken up among the faithful and the support due to the church.

2. Reasons of obedience to the authority of Christ's Church:

The Church clearly commands all Catholics to contribute to its support—that means the support of all institutions over which the pastor has jurisdiction.

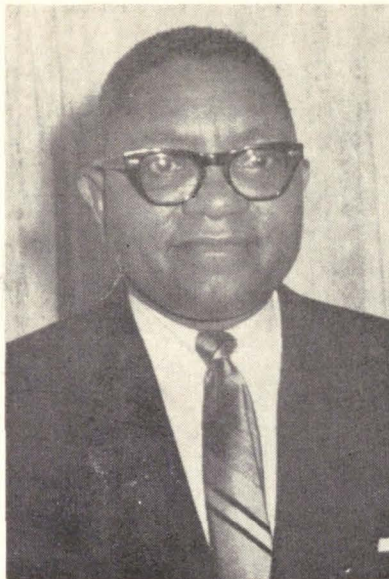
Could anyone be so bold as to call himself a good Catholic if, having any income whatsoever, he completely flouts this definite Precept of the Church whereby he is commanded to contribute to the support of his parish? One can also be undeserving of the title "Good Catholic" by the smallness of his contributions in proportion to his means.

3. Reasons of Common Sense:

If for none of the foregoing reasons, man's own common sense must convey to him that the Parish is the link with the whole Mystical Body of Christ. It is a home for his soul because there his soul is born into grace, there he is educated and fortified for his battle with the world. It is the place where he gives the kind of adoration to God that God has asked for through the sacrifice of the Mass.

Therefore, just as he loves the home in which he lives, he also loves the home where he and his family find immediate access to God. If he loves God, then he wants God to be honoured not only by his words but also by the very appearance of everything that goes to make up the Parish—the church, schools, rectory, convent—that are dedicated to God.

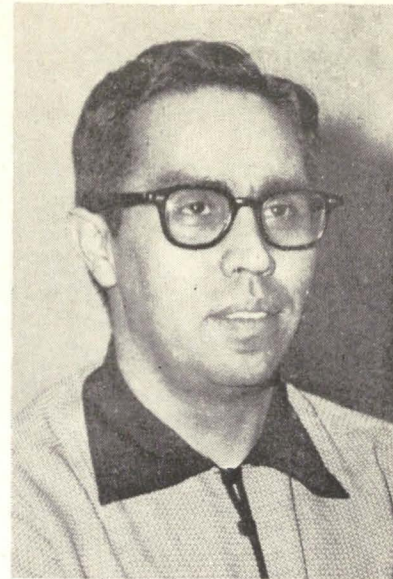
He grieves if his parish is in debt, if some of its buildings are inadequate or in disrepair. He knows he shares the responsibility for putting these things right. He knows that he does not have to go without the necessities of life to do his share. He does want to do it and since it is for God, he has God's own promise "with the same measure that you shall give, it shall be measured to you again"—as a guarantee that he cannot possibly lose.



LOUIS DAVENPORT



Mr. Frank Certa



RAFAEL CARDENAS

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

Are you one of those people who say "What I give to the Church is my own business and no one has any right to know the amount or to question it". If you are, then it is time you gave the matter some thought.

There is more than the element of pure charity in the obligation of giving to one's parish and something more than the complete freedom claimed here. Between a man, his parish and fellow parishioners there is a bond of justice and equity. To analyse that bond he must ask himself "What does my parish need? What is my debt to the parish for the spiritual opportunities it gives me? What example should I set for my fellow parishioners so that our combined contributions would provide for the needs of the Parish?"

Some say: "For years I have been giving \$1.00 a Sunday to my parish—many give less than that, and I see no reason for changing my contribution". What an unrealistic approach that is! Everybody knows that the cost of living is steadily rising—likewise the costs of parish upkeep are increasing.

Some say: "I give just as much as many of my fellow parishioners give".

This is a false standard. Anyone can pick out a number of people in the parish who give a small amount and make this the standard. We should not be guided by what others contribute—we should be guided by our conscience in this matter and thereby satisfy ourselves that we are doing our part honourably.

Some say: "I am disgusted with all the talk about money in the parish and my reaction is to give less than I could".

Such a man is allowing his feelings to over-rule his reason. His feeling of resentment should be recognized as a temptation, not a cause for action. His neglect of duty will neither please God nor help the cause in any way.

All these are incorrect ways of facing up to the question of how much should be given in the Sunday collection. It is equally incorrect to take the stand that as long as one does not have a high enough income to provide the luxuries of life for his family, he need give very little to his parish. The right attitude is that giving to parish support should be an essential part of every Catholic budget, even when the budget is small.

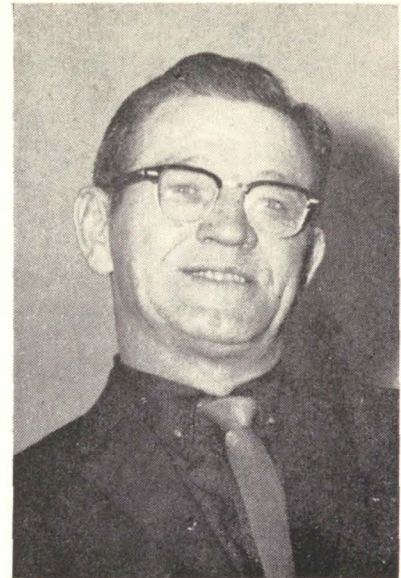
We read in the Bible where God demanded TEN PER CENT of their material income from all His chosen people. There are Protestant sects that will accept no less than this standard from their members and who get it from those in all income levels. If something near these standards could be approached in all Catholic parishes, then the overwhelming problem of providing for a rapidly expanding population would cease to exist and Catholics would find themselves growing in spiritual stature from the graces God would bestow for their generosity.



WILLIAM BOGNER



ANTHONY VESPO



JOHN PETRO

OUR GREATEST NEED

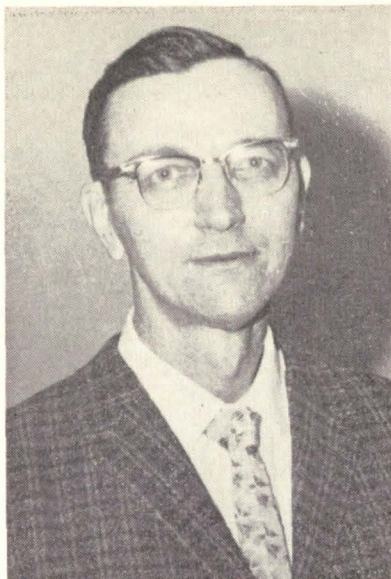
We learn from Scripture that "Where a man's treasure is, there also is his heart". Too often we want to carry that treasure in our own pocket. We so often think that the purpose of money is to provide for our own needs without much thought for the needs of others. It is natural that we think of our bodily needs and it is good that we consider our obligation to feed, clothe and educate our families, but we must remember first things first. Our Lord has told us "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and all these things shall be added unto you". The point is, do we really believe it?

Our faith is based on the idea of sacrifice. In this world sacrifice is not a temporary thing. Christ perpetuated it in the Mass. Our real need is to fully understand and appreciate the tremendous gifts that God has given us and the necessity that we all have of imitating and following the example that He has so perfectly set for us.

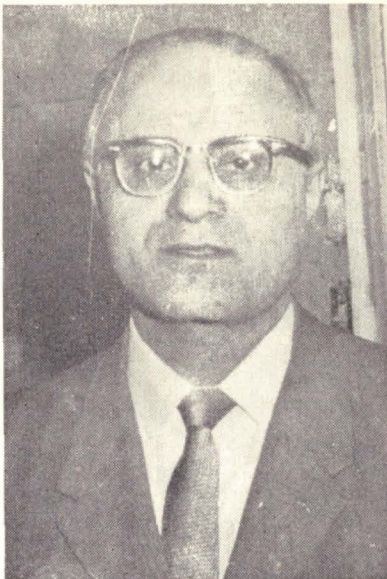
Our generosity will bring the Church more fully into our pattern of living. It is not enough to say our prayers night and morning and to go to Mass on Sunday. We must bring the Church into our whole lives. God must become the centre of all things.

We only ask that you give something temporal in order that you gain something spiritual. It is hard to relate what we give to what we gain, for what we give in time, we gain in eternity.

We wish to thank you for the honor you have bestowed on us in our appointments as leaders of the canvass and we now ask your prayers that in all things we may be guided to do God's Will.



Mr. Kenny Braatz



Mr. Greg Molinaro



Mr. August Kern

Our Plans To Meet Our Needs

In order to attain our goal, which is a sacrificial weekly gift for every wage-earner in our parish, it has been agreed that between now and April 8, 1962, we shall conduct:

AN ORGANIZED

INTENSIVE

INDIVIDUAL

FACE-TO-FACE

SOLICITATION

IN THE HOMES

FOR WEEKLY OFFERTORY PROMISES

OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS

BEGINNING APRIL 8, 1962

Solicitations will be limited to all Catholic wage-earners within the confines of our parish. The intensive aspect of this canvass means that we will concentrate our efforts on obtaining these pledges during the canvassing period.

Individual face-to-face solicitation means that there will be no group canvassing nor will any solicitation be conducted by telephone or mail. A sufficient number of our men have been enlisted, qualified and organized as canvassers to visit and solicit all wage-earners of our parish individually and privately in their homes during the canvassing period.

This will be a canvass for weekly pledges. Contributions and initial cash payments on pledges will be discouraged during the canvassing period. The use of weekly envelopes by every Catholic wage-earner will produce greater spiritual and material results.

CANVASS ORGANIZATION

HONORARY CHAIRMAN
GERRY MALONEY

GENERAL CHAIRMAN
CLEMENS PESCHKE

INITIAL GIFTS CHAIRMAN
JAMES FREEMAN

TEAMS CHAIRMAN
AUGUST KERN

SPECIAL GIFTS CHAIRMEN
KENNY BRAATZ GREG MOLINARO

DIVISION LEADERS
WILLIAM BOGNER ANTHONY VESPO JOHN PETRO

CAPTAINS
LOUIS DAVENPORT SAM MALETTA RAFAEL CARDENAS
LAWRENCE PICHITINO RALPH SETTLE

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Mr. Alfred Sohaney	Mr. Harry Leight	Mr. John Duron	Mr. Eugene Brown
Mr. George Cardenas	Mr. Anthony Maicher	Mr. Jerome Cook	Mr. Richard DeLiberty
Mr. Mortin Gomez	Mr. Sam Mangione	Mr. Donald Gervais	Mr. Edward Bushaw
Mr. Steve Furman	Mr. Joseph Moser	Mr. John Macko	Mr. A. De St. Jean
Mr. Raymond Guernsey	Mr. John Mosora	Mr. Bob Wojkovich	Mr. Daniel Fusillo
Mr. William Gaydos	Mr. James McCabe	Mr. Mike Hudak	Mr. Anthony Mazza
Mr. Julius Gaydos	Mr. Romeo Novelli	Mr. Marion Biggs	Mr. Mathew Vuich
Mr. Vincent Glennon	Mr. Henry Zaiko	Mr. Charles DeLawria	Mr. Aurelio Corona
Mr. John Glotzbach	Mr. Julian Gonzales	Mr. Ricard Fortunak	Mr. Steve Dannora
Mr. Joseph Genduso	Mr. Frank Bender	Mr. Edward Kost	Mr. Robert Marcotte
Mr. John Hand	Mr. Ralph Hartl	Mr. Anthony Rendino	Mr. Charles Clark
Mr. Richard Kennedy	Mr. James Molik	Mr. Joseph Sojan	Mr. Frank Dunajski
Mr. Philip Holt			



HOSTESS ORGANIZATION



Mrs. Gertrude Ranta

HOSTESS CHAIRMEN



Mrs. Marie O'Meara

HOSTESSES

Mrs. Cecilia Certa
Mrs. Mary Magione
Mrs. Shirley Kundrat
Mrs. Ann Bartok
Mrs. Anthony Rendina
Mrs. Charles Delauriea
Mrs. Blanche Morton
Mrs. Sally Jenks
Mrs. Matt Vuich
Mrs. Robert Batcheller

Mrs. Edward Bushaw
Mrs. Loretta Furman
Mrs. Elizabeth Pfister
Mrs. Celia Villareal
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Mrs. Phyllis Huerter
Mrs. Gilberta Gervais
Mrs. Marie Hand
Mrs. Michael Sabocik
Mrs. Bruno Butor
Mrs. Anna Svabik
Mrs. Rosemary Feczko
Mrs. Andrew Kuarta
Mrs. Mary Braatz
Mrs. Mary Wilson



How High Is My Level?

1. The "Tip" level . . . Small change for God.
2. The "Entertainment" level . . . Give when I go.
3. The "Emotional" level . . . Give when I feel like it.
4. The "Promise" level . . . I will do better (if it doesn't interfere with anything else.
5. The "Bible" level . . . I will give systematically and proportionate with my ability to give . . . The amount will be determined after prayer for God's guidance.

IT'S EASY TO GIVE WEEKLY

Increased weekly giving develops increased interest in Church . . . and more important in our Spiritual Growth.

<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Total</i>
\$20.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	\$3,000.00
15.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	2,500.00
10.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	1,500.00
9.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	1,350.00
8.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	1,200.00
7.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	1,050.00
6.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	900.00
5.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	750.00
4.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	600.00
3.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	450.00
2.00 During 150 Weeks . . .	300.00

OUR GIVING CAN BE OF TWO KINDS

1. Pay One's Way

- Calculation of dollar needs . . . then estimate a share.
- Mechanical and arbitrary. A share can be donated grudgingly.
- Declares no extra dividends . . . gets back what is paid . . . or less.

2. Giving To The Lord

- Recognition of what God has given . . . decision to give as expression of thanks to God.
- Not measured by what others give . . . or do not give.
- Sacrificial Giving is ready and joyous. Continually pays dividends of satisfaction, happiness and blessings . . . beyond the givers dreams.

EQUAL SACRIFICE . . NOT EQUAL GIFTS

THE MASS AND OUR SUNDAY OFFERING

It is important to remember that the offering of money has become part of the Mass itself. It is not only by accident that the collection plate is passed around at the moment when the priest is offering to the Almighty Father the water and the wine and the bread that will become the Eucharist.

There was a time when at that particular moment of the Mass the people walked up to the altar and presented their gifts. They gave the wine for the offertory. Or they brought the bread that was to be consecrated for their own communion. The priest took these gifts from their hands and offered them to God in token of the fact that they, the people, wanted to have a part in the Mass and that the bread and the wine were symbolic of their own hearts and souls, which they offered gladly to their Creator.

With the growth of the Church and the consequent big increase in congregation, this method of offering gifts became impractical. And so, around the eleventh century, the offering of money was instituted as a substitute for the offering of bread and wine.

As the priest offers the bread and wine to God, the people place in the collection basket their gift of money. That money is not, clearly, a gift to the priest. Nor is it, in the strict sense, a gift to the parish. It is a gift to God Himself.

Where does God fit in our life?

Each of us, at one time or another, must ask himself—"What is the most important thing in my life—my own ease, material success, or service of God?" In this time of excessive materialism there is a great danger that we may forget eternal values. Our Lord has said: "Seek ye the Kingdom of Heaven and its justice and all these things shall be added unto you." Far too often we begin to think that we are self-sufficient and can supply our own individual needs for ourselves. We forget that God is the giver of all things and that without His help we are absolutely nothing.

It is true that in times of great difficulty we become more aware of our dependence on God and fall on our knees to ask for His help, but these instances are far too rare. There is need for us all to have an abiding knowledge of this fact each and every day of our lives.

If a man were to work all his life for one firm and then go to another firm in order to receive his pension, we would think him foolish. It would be equally foolish for a man to work selfishly for himself all his life and expect God to give him his eternal reward.

It is a shocking thing that many of us spend more on CIGARETTES . . . TELEVISION . . . FISHING . . . VACATIONS and other NON-ESSENTIALS than we give to the Church. Does ALSO IS HIS HEART."

Remember—"WHERE A MAN'S TREASURE IS—THERE it follow that we think more of these than of God?

"For what shall it Profit a man if he gain the
whole world and suffer the loss of his soul"

St. Mark 8:36

*O Lord,
Teach me to be generous;
To give without counting the cost,
To serve You as You should be served,
To fight without heeding the wounds,
To work without seeking rest,
To spend myself without thought of recompense,
Save that of knowing I do your Holy will.*

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA